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NARRATIVES FROM THE WAR

IN CHARGE OF

ELISABETH ROBINSON SCOVIL

Australia is raising \$300,000 to equip a military hospital to be presented to Russia as a tribute from the Commonwealth.

A Scottish women's hospital of 200 beds, under Dr. Agnes Bennet, an Australian, with a staff of fifty-eight nurses, also a motor transport column under Mrs. Harley, a sister of Lord French, has left London for Saloniki, to be attached to the Serbian army.

Russian girls are said to make the most efficient women soldiers in the world. Hundreds of them have taken up arms and are regular members of the Russian military organization, engaging in drives and trench warfare precisely the same as their male comrades. One of them, Mlle. Tarvia, who is only sixteen, has displayed such rare courage in battle that she has been recommended for the Cross and Medal of St. George.

Horseflesh is selling in Vienna at 56 cents a pound for the hind-quarter and 54 cents for the forequarter. Dog meat in Antwerp has risen enormously in price and cat meat is so dear the price is prohibitive.

Major Cedric Charles Dickens, grandson of Charles Dickens, was killed in France in September.

The Victoria Cross is never awarded twice. The only case on record in which the recipient has received further honor is that of Captain Martin Leake of the Royal Army Medical Corps. He won the Cross in South Africa and was given a special bar to be placed on the ribbon supporting the cross, for conspicuous gallantry in the present war.

Queen Nathalie, the widow of King Milan of Serbia, is working as a scrub woman in a military hospital at Bordeaux. She disappeared at the beginning of the war. When her identity was discovered she said: "The times are so tragic that those who were once rulers of men must aid them in all humility." She has placed her palace at Biarritz in the hands of the authorities for use as a military hospital.

The London *Daily Telegraph* says: The mere expansion of the nursing service is one of the wonders of the war, but even more conspicuous has been the admirable development of the organization to meet the needs of an unparalleled situation. Wherever the British forces have gone, there, in the face of danger, hardship and discomfort, British nurses, with all the comforts for the sick that science has placed

at their disposal, have gone with them. Admiration for the deft skill of the trained nurses is only equalled by the sense of obligation created by the women who have gladly lent themselves to monotonous and menial tasks. The nation which is proud of its men has good reason also to be proud of the devotion and courage which its women have exhibited in this crisis of his history, and among those women none has done more splendid service than the nurses of the British army.

The British are provided with a new offensive weapon, a huge armored motor car carrying machine guns. By its impact it can wreck houses, fell small trees and knock down brick walls. It can traverse ground torn by explosive shells into yawning pits, and cross trenches as if they were level ground. It is said to resemble an antediluvian monster in its strength and apparent unwieldiness and yet is easily guided in the desired direction. It is claimed that it is an adaptation of an agricultural motor of the caterpillar type, made at Peoria, Illinois.

A memorial asking that the sale of liquor be prohibited during the war and for six months after its close has been presented to Premier Asquith. It is over eleven miles long, contains two million signatures and weighs a ton. The signatures were obtained in six weeks and were principally those of working people.

Chinese labor is employed in French war factories. Five thousand Chinamen were landed recently at Marseilles for this purpose. Already many natives of North Africa are performing the same service.

Seven thousand women, uniformed in khaki, are at work in one munition factory in England.

The London *Gazette* contains notice of the award of the Military Medal for bravery in the field, to five nurses who have been wounded, Mabel Tunley, B. A. Allsop, Nora Easeby, E. Hutchinson, and J. S. Whyte. They have been on active service since the beginning of the war, and the first four named, though wounded, were still on duty. It was also awarded to Lady Dorothy Feilding, who had driven a motor-ambulance as a member of the Monro Corps attached to the Belgian Field Army, also serving the French when needed. She had received from Belgium the Order of Leopold and from France the Croix de Guerre.

Wonderful results are achieved by the conservative surgery which is the rule in the surgical work necessitated by the war. At the Herbert Hospital, London, there have been from three to four thousand operations and not more than twenty-five primary amputations.